Within the last two years we have developed new approach to health and social work in the Philippines. The modern conception of government supervision of all matters relating to the welfare of the public has been put into actual practice, and the Philippine Government has assumed full and complete responsibility for the relief of public distress due to any cause, whether it be social maladjustment, economic conditions, disaster, or sickness.

The problem of providing medical care for the people of the barrios and the congested districts of the cities and towns is being met by a public health nursing service which is being extended to the more remote communities. Only within the last year we have placed two hundred and fifty additional nurses in this work. Traveling clinics, which are in fact mobile hospitals, are now being employed to reach the isolated villages of the Mountain Province.

In the overcrowded areas and slum districts of Manila and the larger towns we have established social services for the poor, the distressed, and the underprivileged. Greatly increased protection for the health and the welfare of children and the mothers of the slums has been thus provided. Methods of improving the housing of the poor have been adopted on a basis which will permit of continued progress.

Since 1933 the best the Western world has to offer in public welfare service has been inaugurated here and been eagerly adopted by the Filipino people. A well-grounded, long-time program of health and social services has been established. If persistently developed over a period of years, it will be an important factor in the success of the Commonwealth Government. A widespread social consciousness has been aroused among the officials and the people of the towns and barrios. I cannot overemphasize the importance of sustaining this social consciousness through the years to come. I trust that all of us who have been responsible will make continued efforts along these lines and will consider ourselves to be trustees charged with preserving these services and making them more and more progressive and with seeing that there is no stagnation and above all no backward movement.

The present Government of the Philippine Islands

may take just pride in its adoption of the humanitarian principles of government responsibility to ameliorate distress among our helpless people due to any cause, whether it be social maladjustment, economic conditions, disaster, or sickness,